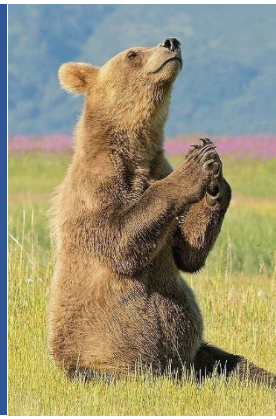




St. Paul Lutheran Church

“Your Refuge from the Storm”



# The St. Paul Bruin

February and  
March 2023

## From the Desk of Pastor Dave

Our Lenten journey will begin once again this year on February 22, with Ash Wednesday and will continue 40 days (not including Sundays) until Easter. It has been the practice for many people to give up something during the season of Lent as a spiritual discipline. This is a fine practice that has been carried on for many generations and is still a valid practice for us today.

During this season of Lent I am asking us not only to think about what we have given up but to think about WHO we wish to never give up. Let me explain; I am encouraging us to prayerfully reflect and consider who in our lives that we never want to be without.

We may first think of God—we never want to be without our relationship with God. Well, here is the good news—God isn't going anywhere! We just need to make sure we are not moving away from Him.

That being said, who is it in your life that you wish never to be without? Your spouse, child/children, grandchildren, friend, co-worker or neighbor? Who is it in your relationship circles that does not know Christ and does not attend a local church? Who is it in our lives that we want to make sure they come to believe in Christ so we can spend eternity with them?

Who is it that you care for and love so very much that it is your desire for them to come to know and believe in the life changing power of the cross of Christ and the salvation that He offers to all who believe in Him.

During this season of Lent please pray for them. On a 3x5 inch card, write down the names of 5 people you never want to be without. People in your life who do not know Christ and do not attend worship. In the first two weeks of March, pray for them by name every day. Then in the third week of March search for opportunities to interact with each of these 5 persons. Then as we enter into the first week of April the week before Easter invite them to sit with you in worship and join you for Easter lunch or a gathering afterwards.

Invite, invite, and invite again. Why invite the same person if they have said no in the past? Because there are seasons of life when each individual is more receptive to come into a relationship with Christ and start attending worship. Those seasons occur when some event shakes their life and causes them to rethink life how they spend their time and their relationship with God. (events such as: just married, just divorced, lost job, got promoted, new baby, miscarriage, child enters kindergarten, mother has cancer, car accident, former college roommate drops dead of a heart attack, recently retired, etc.) Remember—Pray and Invite!

In addition to praying for them will you please join our Leadership Team and staff in praying for our community. Pray until your heart aches and the tears flow. Pray for every child in our community being raised up outside the church. Pray for every marriage in town that doesn't have Christ at the center of that relationship. Pray for every church in town until every pew in town is full every Sunday! Pray until every soul is saved. Pray until every lost sheep is found. Pray until every prodigal son or daughter has come to their senses, turned their hearts toward home, and have been welcomed back to church. Pray until every member of YOUR extended family is an active disciple of Jesus Christ.

Inviting others to join us is a wonderful gift to offer our family members, friends, associates and neighbors who do not know Christ or yet attend worship faithfully - it is a gift from Jesus Christ: forgiveness for their sins (Romans 3); a life filled with the increasing fruits of: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (Galatians 5:22); and the promise of eternity in heaven (John 14: 1-3).

## Upcoming Worship Series at St. Paul

02/22	Ash Wednesday @ St. Paul	The Attributes of Lent	Repentance
02/26		Take Off Your Mask	Stop Hiding from God
03/01	Midweek Lent @ St. James	The Attributes of Lent	Humility
03/05		Take Off Your Mask	Stop Deceiving Yourself
03/08	Midweek Lent @ St. Paul	The Attributes of Lent	Sacrifice
03/12		Take Off Your Mask	Stop Hiding Your Sin
03/15	Midweek Lent @ St. James	The Attributes of Lent	Commitment
03/19		Take Off Your Mask	Stop Faking It
03/22	Midweek Lent @ St. Paul	The Attributes of Lent	Faith
03/26		Take Off Your Mask	Stop Hiding Your Pain
03/29	Midweek Lent @ St. James	The Attributes of Lent	Service
04/02	Palm Sunday		
04/06		Maundy Thurs.	
04/07		Good Friday	
04/09	Easter Sunday	The Gospel of John	John 20:1-8

---

## Springhill Hall Usage Meeting

On Sunday January 22, 2023 a congregational meeting was held after worship service to gather ideas on the future use of Springhill Hall. There were approximately 15 to 20 members present. Informal brainstorming was used and ideas captured.

The president of the church counsel (Laurie Orvedal) and the Education Chair (former Preschool Liaison, Debbi Canavan) were present and provided an update on both the status of the preschool and the general condition of the building including some of the maintenance issues that will need to be address prior to any open use of the building.

The following are the ideas proposed by the membership on possible building use. This includes use of the upstairs and downstairs areas and are listed in random order.

Building Upstairs Downstairs

General outreach for community

Adult study space Woody Way alternate usage

Rent for one time use by community members

Office and storage space for nonprofits (Hospice)

Emergency housing needs

Coffee shop

Exercise rooms

Sunday school spaces as needed.

Worship services (during roof repair

Reopen preschool without daycare (no license required)

Reopen reschool with daycare (license required)

My recommendation for the building prior to any steady use is to complete all the necessary repairs, complete the flooring upstairs, storage areas are cleaned out, cosmetic repairs are finished, and the classrooms in both areas are set back up. We can make a list with more specific needs and prioritize it if necessary depending on the counsel's wishes.

Submitted by: Daniel J. Canavan

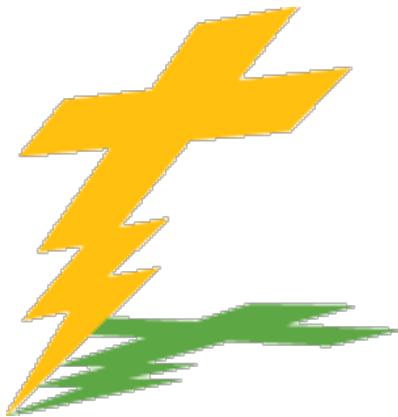
---



What a privilege and opportunity it is to utterly come to the end of one's hope — not only to run out of answers but to run out of questions. To be beyond fighting, to come to that suspended animation where we are so confused and so weak that we can neither fight [nor] run.

When you come to the end of yourself, you find the beginning of God. And there and nowhere else, you find the answers you seek. You find fulfillment for the longings of your soul.  
—Max Anders

---



After some time away from the church, author Donald E. Miller returned to the fold. He writes: “One thing that brought me back ... was asking simply: What are the alternatives to the church? Where are the communities that sanction the pursuit of meaning and truth as a legitimate enterprise? that have material and personal resources to assist in this search? that provide regular occasions for confession of failures? that renew and inspire? that provide a setting where children are nurtured? where family members can be buried? where births can be celebrated? where social issues can be debated?”

Miller concludes: “There are a number of institutions that deal with one or several of these questions, but historically the church has demonstrated its ability to energize all of these activities.”

---



Through the centuries [people] have displayed many different symbols to show that they are Christians. They have worn crosses in the lapels of their coats, hung chains about their necks, even had special haircuts. Of course, there is nothing intrinsically wrong with any of this, if one feels it is [one's] calling. But there is a much better sign, a universal mark that is to last through all the ages of the church until Jesus comes back. ...

Love — and the unity it attests to — is the mark Christ gave Christians to wear before the world. Only with this mark may the world know that Christians are indeed Christians, and that Jesus was sent by the Father.

—Francis Schaeffer

---

# Financial News

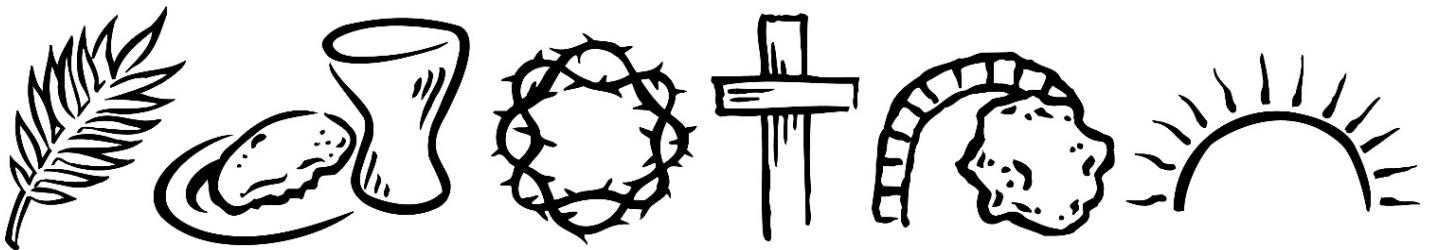
Happy New Year

St Paul Church has made a few changes to the business accounting system in this new year. We had been using a software system called "Flockbase" that was designed for church accounting. Unfortunately the system was difficult to learn and navigate so your council decided to return to the former system of Quicken. We have also decided to engage a bookkeeper and allowing Jennifer to focus more on church related needs.

Our church calendar runs from April too April, and as of December 2022 we have had an income of 136,935.08 towards our budgeted amount of 250,000.00. I want to thank all of you for your generous giving, we are prayerfully hopeful that we will come close to our target by the end of March. Those that had earmarked funds for our Mission and Building projects a great big thank you. The Kim Miller fund is helping those in Kodiak that struggle with keeping their home warm and our building will be in need of repair this year so that we can safely continue to use a house of worship and gathering.

As the year progress and we work into our 2023/2024 calendar year there will be more to come as far as expenses and needs and many, more thank you' s to all of you who continue to give of your time, talents and giving.

Rose Wolf  
Treasurer



**Youth Mentoring/Confirmation**  
**Selected Saturdays @ 10:30am**

*"Becoming GOD-Dependent"*

**"Ten Attitudes of Victorious Living"**

Pastor Dave will be leading youth mentoring small groups that will be using the Bible, The Small Catechism with discussion to equip our youth with attitudes for victorious living.

Dear Members and Friends of St Paul!

I wanted to share some information that many of you have been wondering about regarding our roof and the leaking/dripping we have been experiencing for the past 10 years or so. We have tried to have the issue repaired in the past, but the repairs have not fixed the problem. In the past couple years, we have really tried to research the cause of the problem to assure that we can address it fully. We believe that we now have a clear picture of the issues we are facing, and I want to share that information with you all.

A little over twenty years ago we changed the roof to an asphalt shingle roof from wooden shakes (which were initially installed). Unbeknownst to us at that time, the attic space ventilation required for the wooden shakes is very different than what is required for an asphalt shingled roof. Over the years, condensation began to form between the roof sheeting and the church ceiling. That condensation has now caused significant damage to the roof structure. We do not know the full extent of the damage, but the

area of the roof where we believe the damage is the most significant was opened enough to install a vent and this allowed us to look in and see a snapshot of what is going on. The most significant of the findings are as follows: the visible rafter was completely saturated and significantly deteriorated which severely compromises structural integrity in that area; the glulam was also saturated and had some rot, although not as significant as the rafter; the insulation is saturated and there is water sitting on the vapor barrier. One of our members, who is an engineer, has been researching the building codes and what our options are for the roof. Worst case scenario is that we may need to replace the entire roof from sheetrock and wiring to the shingles on both sides of the sanctuary and the side behind the altar. As we have more information, I will keep you all informed. We are working on ideas to fund the work that our roof will require. Many of you may have noticed that we have moved our piano to a different area in the church to assure that it won't be dripped on or water damaged. If any of you have any questions or would like more information about what we have found, please feel free attend a council meeting or to contact me at 907-654-9905.

Please keep our church and the wonderful people who are helping to work on these issues in your thoughts and prayers, and please keep this project in mind as we are looking forward at ways to fund the costs for repairing our church home. To God be the glory,

Laurie Orvedal  
Council President

***Preserving our Past; Embracing our Future***

## **Missions Team**

Here at St. Paul the first 10% of the weekly giving is earmarked for Missions. The Missions Committee meets quarterly to split that 10% between national, international, state and local needs. Monies have been sent through various Christian organizations in the state, nation, across the globe to aid in relief of natural disasters, famine, and health concerns. Making sure that food is available has always been a high priority. Locally we have supported KAMP, Salvation Army, Brother Francis, the food bank, the Women's Resource and Crisis Center and Camp Woody, to name a few.

At one of our meetings, we were discussing who we could give the local money to. The discussion came around to "Why are we giving money to other Christian organizations to do mission work, why not do it ourselves. This and other discussions have brought us to the point of our current plan.

On March 25th we will be giving away, here at the church, bags of rice and cans of Spam between noon and two o'clock. In addition there will be hot dogs and hamburgers available.

Who is going to do all the work? YOU can take this opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus and become involved in this mission work, VOLUNTEER. It is after all your church and your mission.

If you would like help or sit in on the mission committee, contact Mary Ann Kondro, Pastor Dave, Rose Wolf, or Bill Barker. We would love to have you join us.

## **Prayer Breakfast Notes:**

On Wednesday mornings 6 to 10 folks gather in Springhill hall for Prayer, fellowship and laughter. This was started about 35 years ago and has been going pretty much continuously since. By the coffee pot there is a coffee cup, and folks would occasionally put money in it. Over the years we have used the money to help high school students buy lunch. We have purchased food cards to give to individuals.

Last month we counted the money and were surprised to find over \$500. That money has been used to purchase "Have a Heart" food cards from Safeway corporate. "Have a Heart" cards are restricted to food purchases only. \$500 purchased 20-\$25 cards. These will be available at Wednesday morning breakfast for folks to give to anyone they know who could use a little help. If you know of anyone that could use a little bump, join us for breakfast, pick up a card and be a blessing to someone in the name of St. Paul Lutheran Prayer Breakfast.

Breakfast is served at 7:00 AM and we are usually finished by 7:30 so folks can make work by 8:00. Menu is usually eggs, pancakes, and sausage. Periodically we will have a change, like huevos rancheros or sausage gravy and biscuits. Preparations begin at 6:00 and help is never refused. Did I mention that breakfast is FREE?

- Bill Barker

## BIRTHDAYS

### February

Name	Day
Patti Hendrix	26

### March

Nancy Johnson	4
Charlette Burke	9
MacKenzie Burke	9
Abel Canavan	14
Aidan Skonberg	17

### April

Heather Burke	3
Lisa Johnson	8
Karen Simonson	10
Judy Johnson	12
Debbi Canavan	25
Chase Kiefer	29

## Anniversaries

### February

	Day	Years
Rose Wolf	10	27
Tamie E. Fogle	14	30

### March

Sue Norton	14	39
Dan Kiefer	19	12
Amanda Kiefer	19	12
Jim Devlin	20	41
Lynn Devlin	20	41

### April

Bill Barker	10	57
Ann Barker	10	57
Don Norton	14	39



In the early years of the U.S. space program, a small but powerful rocket was supported by a metal framework. This “escape tower” was bolted to the capsule in which astronauts awaited takeoff. If disaster occurred, the escape tower was to carry the capsule up and away from the main rocket. A parachute would then float the astronauts safely to earth.

Jesus’ resurrection is more than a great escape. If he had merely eluded death, that would be akin to resuscitation. By God’s power, Jesus didn’t merely survive death but conquered it, once and for all. On Easter, Jesus returns to life not for his own sake but for the sake of all humanity. He reassures the disciples — and us — “Peace be with you.”

### How Jesus says your name

It’s been said that when someone loves you, they say your name differently. Your name is “safe” coming from their mouth.

Mary Magdalene found this to be true. Walking alone in the dark to Jesus’ tomb, she wanted nothing less than for a concerned loved one to interrupt her private grief, crooning her name in pity: “Oh, Mary, there, there.” Or worse, someone from her old life who would spit her name like a curse, not knowing that Jesus had cast out her demons. But then Mary saw the tomb open and panicked, ran to get Simon, hurried back to the garden. Angels addressed her — not by name, just “Woman ...” — and then a gardener: “Woman ...”

Except then — “Mary” — this man knew her after all, speaking her name so knowingly, tenderly, lovingly that she recognized him. “Mary.” Her name was safe in his mouth, her life safe in his care. He wasn’t the gardener. He was her teacher, her friend, her Savior.

Friend, your name also is safe in Jesus’ mouth, your life safe in his care, for he loves you deeply.

—Heidi Hyland Mann



## Children's Programs – Children's Church

We are currently using Children's Church format instead of a Sunday School format for children's instruction. The Children's Church consists of a message during the service and an activity and message follow-up in the Nursery Room during the worship sermon time. Generally, the person leading the Children's Message will also lead the follow-up activities, though there may be times when a second leader is needed to cover the activities.

Karen Winkler and Debbi Canavan are coordinating the Children's Church leader schedule and activities. Mary Ann Kondro and Heather Burke are on the team as well.

## Children's Programs – Preschool Status

The Preschool is closed. The office, materials, and other resources need a LOT of work. Debbi is following up on any office/administrative work as she can. No one is consistently in the office or on email. An "out of office" message has been set up notifying email senders that the Preschool is closed and providing Debbi's contact information if someone desires to follow up.

There are several maintenance issues to be addressed in the Preschool area:

- Bathrooms – replace toilets; update sink plumbing/fixtures; paint walls; fix flooring
- Hallway and rooms – fix the flooring seams; patch a few cove molding areas; thoroughly clean the floors; seal the floors (professional wax treatment); paint the hallway
- Windows need some type of covering (curtains, blinds, etc.)
- Bulletin boards and furniture need to be reinstalled.
- Tables, chairs, play equipment need to be thoroughly cleaned and set up
- All furnishings and materials need to be inspected, organized, replaced (as needed), or removed.

Debbi Canavan, Education Chair

# Puzzle!



Starting at the capital A and ending at the period, find the words to Isaiah 53:6 in the letter maze below. Words can appear forward, backward, up or down. Not all letters will be used, and some words may be split. But you won't need to lift your pencil off the page!

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Answer: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.  
Isaiah 53:6, NRSV

## Moments for Mission

The mission committee of St. Paul Lutheran Church met on Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023, to discuss the disbursement of Mission funds for the 4th Quarter of 2022.

Local Funds of \$1841.05 will be held until a later date and will not be distributed at this time.

State Funds of \$980.53 - Kake Memorial Presbyterian Church, Pastor Joey Chang. Funds to be used to support their "Peace of Kake Cafe." This is a community food program that brings the community of Kake together for a meal one day a week, currently on Saturdays each week. Kake has no restaurant or cafe - this brings the community together to share food prepared by church volunteer staff. This weekly event also includes prayers and a devotional. Weekly between 50 and 75 people attend to share food and blessings free of charge. Donations are accepted of food or cash. This gathering is into its 10th year of blessing the citizens of Kake, through this local 100 year old church.

National Funds of \$980.53 - Cru (previously Campus Crusade for Christ) Each Summer mission programs around the country are staffed by college students in communities across the country. This summer several mission trips will occur in Alaska. Funds will be used for Alaskan Mission trips. Web site information is available at Cru

International Funds of \$980.53 - Samaritan's Purse - Specifically to support aid for the victims and relief efforts following the recent, Feb 7, 2023, earthquake in Turkey. Samaritan's Purse has already disbursed a 52-bed hospital facility and volunteers to support and share the word of God.

Please watch for more information on the Local Food distribution Event on March 25, 2023 at 12-2:00PM in the church parking lot. There will be 50 bags of food given out and a hot dog/hamburger feast with sides of chips. We are welcoming any and all to be a part of this food sharing - time to chat - mission event. More information to follow.

submitted by Mary Ann Kondro



## SPAM Potluck

On Sunday, March 19 after worship St. Paul will be hosting a SPAM Potluck. Yes, that's right – a SPAM potluck! We simply ask that all dishes brought in contain SPAM. Watch the newsletter and announcements for more details.

*Dearest,*

*I'm so glad you are here...taking time to be with me...taking time for us. This part of the journey is so hard sometimes. I understand...remember, I came to earth not because I had to but because I wanted to...I wanted to make sure you were with me forever!*

*Not everything about my life was easy...nor is it easy for you to accept or even believe. But I need you to. I want you to try and believe it...because it's true. I love you with a love so great, so passionate that at times it seems irrational! Doesn't matter who you are or what you have done...because there is nothing...NOTHING that can separate you from this love of mine.*

*I know you question this love. I hear you say there's no way I could love you...look at what you've done. Do you really think I don't already know who you are and what you've done? I do...you can't hide it from me, because I was there when you thought it, did it, and when it happened. There are no secrets between you and me. Face it, I love you in spite of who you are and what you've done. I love you because of who you are and what you have done.*

*I know sin is a powerful thing in your life and it's extremely destructive and devastating. It is hurtful and painful...it even puts walls between you and me. But don't let sin rule your life. Don't let your pride tell you that it doesn't matter...it does. Your sin matters enough to me to die for it.*

*My child, my dear child...how I love you!!! Let the pain of your sin go and fall into my arms of love for you. Don't let that sin come between us. Please don't shut me out...I want to be a part of your today as much as part of your eternity! Know that I forgive you completely – I forgive you completely!!! If you confess, I forgive. It's that simple.*

*That cross, those nails – they made it possible for us to be together...please don't throw this gift away. Don't let it be something that doesn't mean anything, doesn't affect the way you live. Let my gift of love – your saving from sin, death, and the powers of hell – let that gift be real in your life! Because if you will, life will be more than you can imagine!*

*It won't always be easy...you will still hurt, you will struggle at times...but we can do those times together...together. I long to be with you, to give you guidance and direction. I long to be your strength and your heart's desire. I long for my life to make a difference in yours so that together we can make a difference in this world.*

*Do you love me enough to live for me? To live, truly live for me?  
Come child. I love you so much!! I gave my life for you...will you give yours to me?*

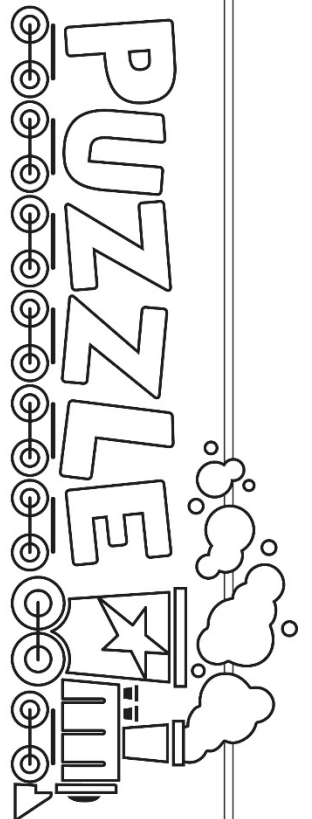
*With all my love,*

**Jesus**

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
3077 East Rezanof Dr.  
Kodiak, AK 99615

*Some people have gotten out of the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer.*

Hebrews 10:25 CEV

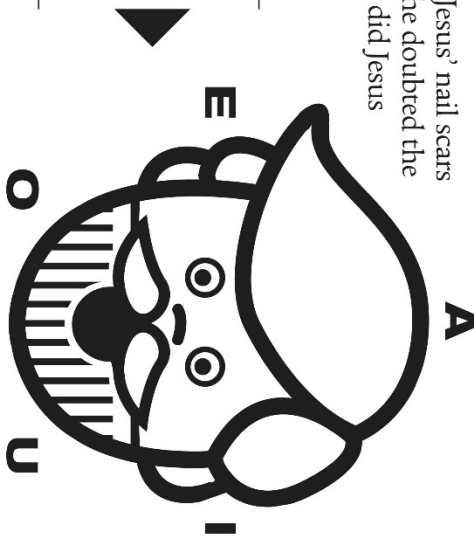


## SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?

**Directions:**

Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete John 20:29, NIV.



“B \_ C \_ \_ S \_ \_ y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ s \_ \_ n m \_ ,  
\_  
y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d ;  
\_  
b l \_ s s \_ d \_ r \_ \_ t h \_ s \_ \_ w h \_ \_ h \_ v \_ \_ n \_ t  
\_  
s \_ \_ n \_ n d y \_ t h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d .”

**JOHN 20:29, NIV**